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the Wisconsin Architect



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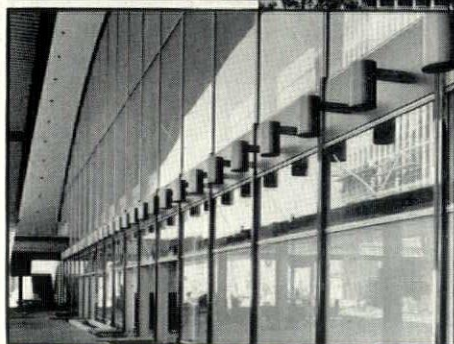
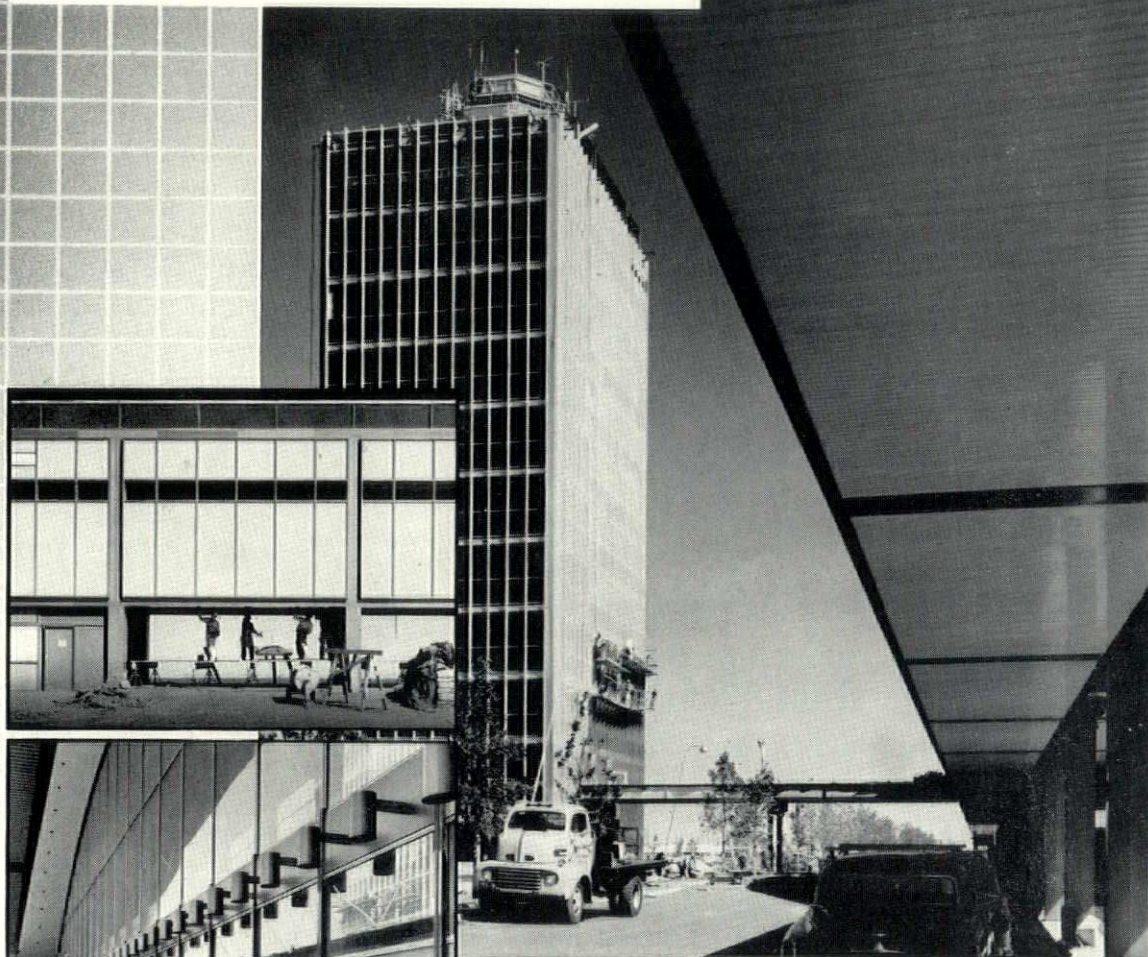
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PHOTOS BY LIONEL FREEDMAN

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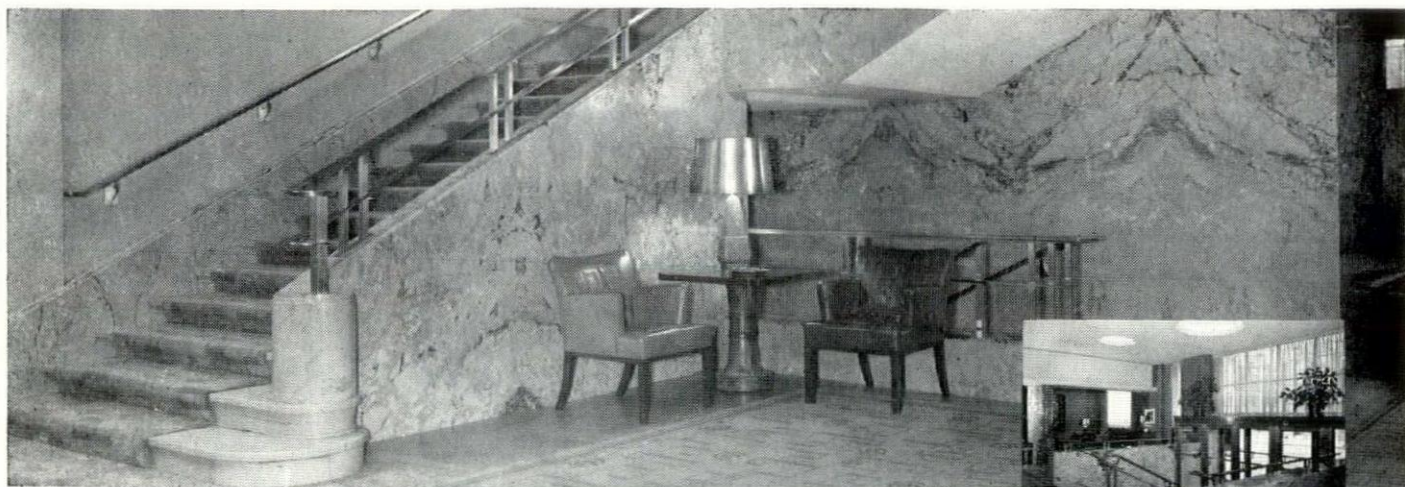
The magnificent sense of order that dominates the design of this fine structure is expressed by the attractive grid of aluminum and stainless steel window enframements. Almost 53,000 lineal feet of these members were shop fabricated into unit frames for the International Arrival Building and Airline Wing Buildings and erected by FLOUR CITY.

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A PROGRESS PICTURE...

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in excess of 100
footcandles.

THE OLD

Good quality but
low level lighting
— 40 footcandles.



Photo was taken before lighting modernization was complete. Modernization now completed.

The NEW offers excellent quality lighting plus adequate lighting levels for visual comfort throughout the room. Accoustical baffles provide satisfactory sound conditioning. Here is a combination of lighting and accoustical treatment

which creates a comfortable atmosphere for all employees. This results in increased production and less fatigue.

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WISCONSIN ELECTRIC POWER CO.

The Seven Lamps of Architecture!

Splendid Program Arranged for Convention

AN excellent business program with a number of outstanding speakers and Madison hospitality will form the core of the 1958 Wisconsin Chapter, A.I.A. convention scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, February 11 and 12, at the Loraine hotel in Madison.

COVER COMMENT

A contemporary church, rich in dignity and the feel of spiritual serenity, is pictured on this month's cover. More photos of this work will be found on Pages 10 and 11. It was done by the AIA firm of Stephan and Kemp, of Milwaukee. The building is an example of contemporary design typical of church architecture performed recently by Wisconsin Chapter members.

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Wisconsin Chapter American Institute of Architects

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The theme of the convention, "Seven Lamps of Architecture," will be reflected in three seminars and the annual banquet address to be held Wednesday evening. The Madison chapter has arranged a "hospitality" evening on Tuesday. Cocktails, a Cornish game hen dinner, and entertainment will be offered convention-goers at the Nakoma Country club. A bit of humor will be injected into the Wednesday noon smorgasbord when "Little Oscar" describes "Little People in a Big Man's World."

A business session will open the meeting Tuesday morning. Agenda items will include the tabulation

and results of the election of the Board of Directors, the president's report, and consideration of the Chapter's stand on identifying advertising.

Jack Train who so impressed Wisconsin Chapter members at the A.I.A. Regional Conference in Rockford this fall will address the first seminar gathering on Tuesday afternoon. He will discuss "Business Administration in the Architect's Office." Train is an Associate partner in the firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill with whom he has been connected since 1946. He received his B.S. Degree in architectural engineering.

(Continued on Page 4)

PREXY'S CORNER

By Arthur O. Reddemann



President, Wisconsin Chapter, A.I.A.

No Wisconsin Chapter member should miss the wonderful program planned for the convention in Madison on the 11th and 12th of next month. Should driving conditions be bad, the hotel is directly across from the bus station and a stone's throw from the depot. And don't forget to bring your wives! Woe be to the architect who leaves his wife at home to miss the style show or the tea at the Governor's mansion.

Maurey Lee Allen's committee has worked hard to arrange what promises to be one of the outstanding conventions in the Chapter's history and the Madison division has arranged a series of social events to please the most discriminating convention-goer. Even the Madison Chamber of Commerce has cooperated to the utmost in arranging such details as providing an information booth, maps and souvenirs.

While on the subject of the convention, I would like to urge all

members who possibly can to attend the annual meeting on Tuesday morning, February 11. This is your chance to air your complaints and voice your opinions on matters scheduled for the agenda. The subject of the Chapter's stand on identifying advertising should be especially interesting.

And, please, mail in your advance reservations!

The returns from the questionnaire on a school of Architecture in Wisconsin have been good. They are presently being tabulated and the results will be forwarded to the A.I.A. Survey team which spent several days here in September. The results of the questionnaire will no doubt have a bearing on the report of the Survey team.

Most of the committees this past year have done an excellent job and we are looking forward to receiving the reports from their chairmen.

I'll be seeing you in Madison.

Convention...

From Page 3

neering from the University of Illinois and is registered as both an architect and structural engineer. Train is a director of the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A.

Richard Dewey, professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois and a former member of the Milwaukee City Planning office has chosen the topic, "Feudal Values, Business Society, and the Architect" for his seminar on Wednesday morning.

Wisconsin schools will form the basis of the seminar topic to be discussed by A. L. Buechner, supervisor of School Building Service for the state. Specifically he has chosen "Are Our Schools Modern?" for the Wednesday afternoon seminar.

William Caudill—architect, teacher, author—will address the annual banquet on Wednesday evening. His topic will be "Specifications for an Architecture." Born in Hobart, Oklahoma, Caudill received his B.A. degree at Oklahoma A&M college, and his Master of Architecture from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He also did special work at

Texas A&M and New York University in 1941 and 1942. Currently a principal of the firm of Caudill, Rowlett and Scott, architects and engineers with offices in Bryan, Texas; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Corning, New York, he has authored such books as "Toward Better School Design," "Space for Teaching" as well as numerous articles and pamphlets. Caudill has also served as the past chairman of the A.I.A. National School Committee. Among his affiliations are the Columbia University School Building Research Committee, Building Research Institute and the Texas Association of School Administrators.

Forty-one exhibitors will compete for awards for the best designed and most informative booth. They will also contribute door prizes for a drawing to be held preceding the banquet.

Maurey Lee Allen is convention committee chairman. Members of his committee are: Robert Torkelson, Nathaniel Sample, Donn Hougen, Austin Fraser, Alexander Cuthbert, Carl Gausewitz, and Robert Sauter.

Note! The Ladies

ARE Invited!

While the ladies are invited to attend all functions of the Convention, two socials have been arranged expressly for them:

A luncheon-style show will be held at Manchester's at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Mrs. Vernon Thomson will receive wives of Wisconsin Chapter members at a tea at the Governor's mansion on Wednesday afternoon.

Also of particular interest to the ladies is the Tuesday evening hospitality night at the Nakoma Country Club. Cocktails will precede the dinner. A "jam session" will feature the evening's entertainment. The bar will be open following the dinner.

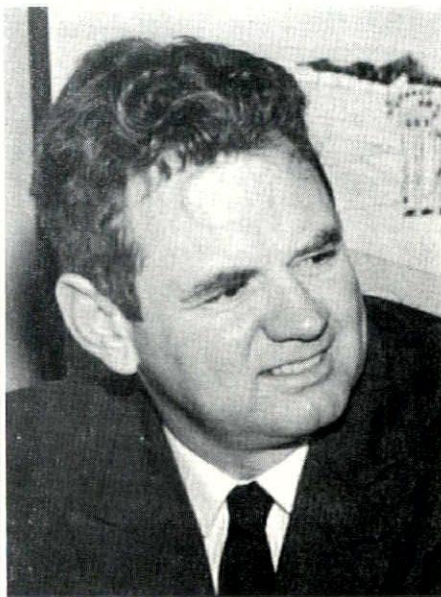
It is often the case that when Romeo loses his capital, Juliet loses her interest.

Insurance records show that the average woman wears better than the average man, but not as much.

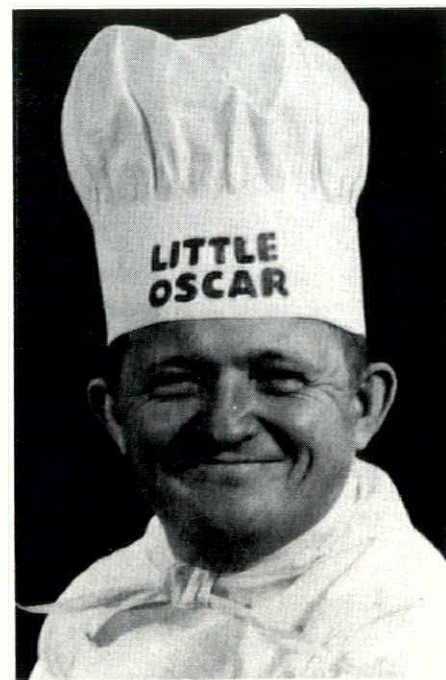
Convention Speakers



JACK TRAIN



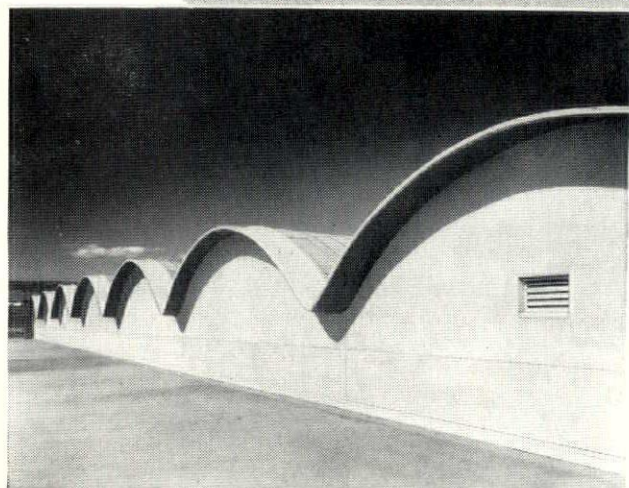
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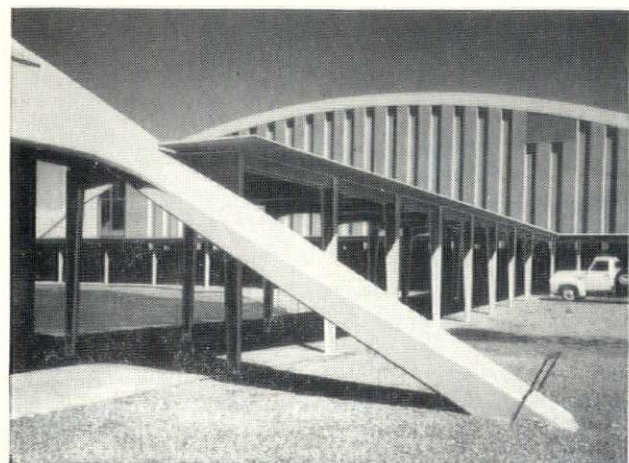
LITTLE OSCAR



Gym roof consists of a barrel with five sections, each with a 152-ft. chord and a 30-ft. rise. Shop roof in background has six sections, each with an 80-ft. chord, 18-ft. rise.



The roof of the multi-purpose building, above, consists of seven 60-ft.-long barrels, each with a 32-ft. chord and 23-ft. radius. Photo below shows the type of covered walks (pre-cast concrete bents) used on the campus. The architect was Maloney & Whitney, Yakima, Wash. The structural engineer was Worthington & Skilling, Seattle. The contractor was Wall, Bartram & Sanford, Wood Village, Troutdale, Oregon.



CONCRETE SHELL ROOFS answer school's need for unobstructed floor areas

The Ellensburg High School, Ellensburg, Wash., demonstrates the versatility of concrete shell roofs for educational structures. Large unobstructed floor areas were required for three types of buildings: the gymnasium, the shop building and a multi-purpose building. Concrete barrel shell roofs were chosen for all three.

Shell roof construction provided the unobstructed floor area required. It was economical to build and opened unusual design opportunities to the architects.

More and more architects and engineers are turning to concrete shell roofs for structures requiring open floor areas. Roofs with spans up to 300 feet and more can be built without any interior columns. In addition to school buildings such as shown here, concrete shell roofs are ideal for auditoriums, exhibition pavilions, hangars, field houses, train sheds, repair shops for large equipment, garages and warehouses.

Concrete shell roofs offer additional advantages of low maintenance cost, long life, low insurance rates and **low-annual-cost** service. Send for free illustrated booklets. Its distribution limited to the U.S. and Canada.

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Honor Awards Program Is Now Open to AIA Members

The 10th annual program of Honor Awards is now under way.

Members of the Wisconsin Chapter, A.I.A., may be interested in these details:

Eligibility: All entries shall be buildings designed by registered architects practicing professionally in the United States. The buildings shall have been erected anywhere in the United States or abroad and must have been completed after January 1, 1953.

All entries shall be submitted in the manner herein specified and prior to the specified date.

Classifications: The Program is open to buildings of all classifications. It is not necessary that the entrant designate his entry by category. In the judgment equal emphasis will be given to all classifications. An entry may be one building or a related group of buildings forming a single project.

Mandatory Rules for Preliminary Submission: In the preliminary submission for judgment all material shall be contained in an 8½ x 11 in. Ful-Vu Economy Binder, Type CB-10, containing 10 transparent Mikafilm window sleeves for displaying 20 inserts, back to back. On receipt by The Institute of entry slip and fee, each entrant will be mailed one binder for each project entered and paid for.

Only those entries which receive awards will be subsequently presented on meter square hard board mounts for exhibition at the Convention.

All entries in the preliminary submission as detailed above must be received at The Octagon, 1735 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C., not later than April 24, 1958, to be eligible for an award. Indicate on envelope, "1958 Honor Awards Entry."

A registration fee of \$10.00 for each building or group of buildings submitted must be paid by the entrant at the time entry slips are forwarded. The entry slip and fee must be received by The Institute on or prior to February 11, 1958.

Checks or money orders shall be payable to The American Institute of Architects. No entry fees will be refunded for entries which do not materialize.

The Jury will be appointed by The Board of Directors of The American Institute of Architects. The Jury will name its own chairman. The Jury shall consist of five architects—corporate members of The A.I.A. representing various regions of the country, one of whom must be an architectural educator.

Judgment will be made at The Octagon, April 28-30, 1958.

Board Approves New Members

The Board of Directors favorably recommended Lester G. Seubert, Milwaukee, for Corporate membership in the A.I.A. at its meeting in December.

In other actions, the Board accepted two new Junior Associate members: Robert N. Strass and Richard J. Knothe. Strass, who lives at 4930 N. Cumberland Blvd., Whitefish Bay, received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Yale University this year. He is employed as a draftsman with Maynard Meyer & Associates. Knothe is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and Iowa State college. He has been a draftsman with Weiler and Strang, Madison, since July, 1957.

MILWAUKEE DIVISION ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Milwaukee Division officers for 1958 were chosen at the Division's meeting at the Pan American Club last month. Those named were Maynard Meyer, president; Charles Haeuser, vice-president; Robert Klocksinn, re-elected secretary; and John Jacoby, division Director.

NAROVEC PRESIDENT OF NORTHEAST DIVISION

George Narovec was elected president of the Northeast division. Other officers from that area for 1958 include William Weeks, vice-president; Melvin Siewert, secretary-treasurer; and Karel Yasko, re-elected Division director.

ZARSE A CORPORATE

Word has been received from the Octagon that Alfred Henry Zarse, 2700 S. Chicago Avenue, South Milwaukee, has been elected to Corporate membership in the A.I.A.

Zarse and his son have their offices in South Milwaukee.

Six Nominated for Positions As Directors-at-Large

Three Directors-at-Large will be elected from a slate of six members consisting of Perc Brandt, John Brust, Donn Hougen, Wallace Lee, Stephen Playter and Fritz von Grossmann. The nominees were named by a committee appointed by the Board and composed of the presidents of

each Division: John Jacoby, Leonard Reinke, and Nathaniel Sample. Ballots will be mailed to all Corporate members. Counting of the ballots and announcement of the new Directors will be accomplished at the annual meeting of the Chapter.

Three Division Directors already elected by their divisions are: John Jacoby, Karel Yasko and Joseph Flad. The latter two were re-elected to the Board.

Present Board members whose terms will expire in 1959 are: Mark Purcell, Frank Shattuck, Robert Potter, Maurey Lee Allen and Robert Hackner. The present president, Arthur Reddemann, will remain on the Board during his successor's term as president.

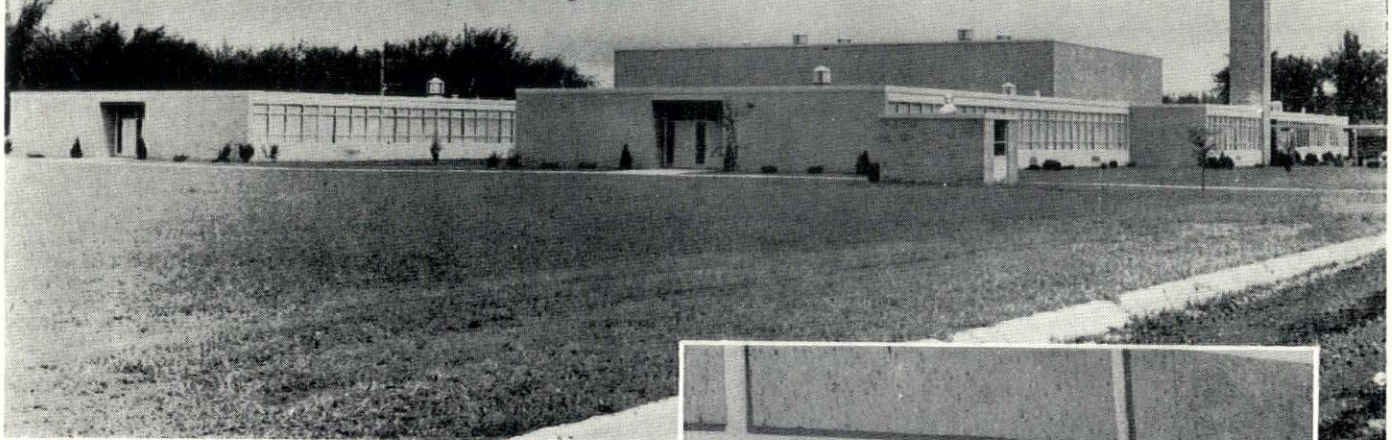
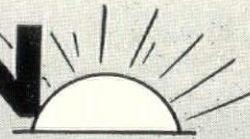
TWO FROM ILLINOIS JOIN MILWAUKEE CHAPTER

Lincoln F. Frelich, 19 E. Milwaukee St., Janesville, has transferred from the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A., to the Wisconsin Chapter, as has Charles R. Ames, 2020 University Ave., Madison, formerly an Associate member of the Northern Illinois chapter. Both men will become members of the Madison Division.

RISING SUN

BUFF WIRECUT

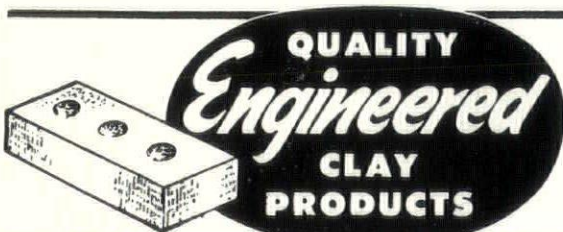
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To Preserve Excellence . . .

*Report of Richard W. E. Perrin, A. I. A.,
Chairman, Historic Committee, and Preservation Officer
for Historic Buildings in the State of Wisconsin*

THE beauty of a house is scarcely less important than its room. True, a homely but convenient house is better than a beautiful but incommensurate one, yet beauty and utility, so far from being incompatible with each other, are as closely united in Art as in Nature; that is, are inseparable. It is hardly possible to have a truly handsome house without its being capable of being made as handy inside as it is beautiful outside; nor can a homely-looking house well be made convenient. I repeat, beauty and utility are as closely united in Architecture as they are throughout all Nature. Form embodies an important element of beauty, and yet some forms are constitutionally more beautiful than others. Of these the spherical is more beautiful than the angular, and the smooth and undulating than the rough and projecting.

"The basis of this sentence is an immutable law of Nature. Look at a dome, and then at a cottage roof, full of sharp peaks, sticking out in various directions, and say if the undulating regularity of the former does not strike the eye far more agreeably than the sharp projections of the latter. This is not one of those fancy matters which allow of diversity of opinion, but is a fixed ordinance of Nature, and passes no enviable sentence on the tastes of those who claim to possess as great a preponderance of good taste as of property, besides their other prerogatives.

"Since, then, the octagon form is more beautiful as well as capacious, and more consonant with the predominant or governing form of Nature—the spherical—it deserves consideration."

Thus, more than a century ago, wrote Orson S. Fowler, Architect and Naturalist. His book, published in 1854, was entitled "A Home for All—or the Gravel Wall—and Octagon Mode of Building—New, Cheap, Convenient, Superior and Adapted to Rich and Poor." Fowler's inspiration for the gravel or grout wall came from the old Goodrich House at Milton, Wisconsin and he speaks of it in glowing terms. The Historic Committee's acquaintanceship with

Mr. Fowler and his ideas arose out of a request at the Committee from Architect Carl F. Schmidt of Scottsville, New York for information concerning octagonal houses in Wisconsin to be included in a history being prepared by him of the octagonal building movement in the United States during the 1850's. Approximately two dozen octagonal houses can still be found in the State of Wisconsin and several field trips were necessitated to obtain up-to-date photographs and historical data concerning them.

In the process of compiling this information, the Linus Dewey House, 1631 North Fourth Street in Milwaukee, built in 1855, was discovered to be in abandoned and near ruinous condition. Conferences were had with officers of the Milwaukee County Historical Society for the purpose of preventing, if possible, the destruction of this old house and to find some appropriate use for it. As of this writing, no workable proposals for the preservation of this building have been found. The Linus Dewey House is the only remaining two story octagon house of Fowler's planning principle in the City of Milwaukee. Realizing its preservation as being probably unattainable, the building was carefully measured by the writer with the able assistance of Mr. Earl Ayling, real estate broker, who had the building up for sale. Record drawings will be prepared for inclusion in the Historical American Buildings Survey.

Being aware also that another type of octagonal landmark was rapidly passing from the scene, detailed photographs were taken of the cluster of octagonal wooden barns situated on and near Port Washington Road in the old Town of Mequon, Ozaukee County. While not of grout wall construction, these barns were very probably influenced by Fowler's writings since he gives a rather complete dissertation on octagonal barns, carriage houses and agricultural buildings, and the Wisconsin examples seem to reflect the same theory. Two of the barns, representing the smallest and largest type respectively, were also

measured in detail and will be recorded in the Historical American Buildings Survey.

In the course of last summer's travels through the State, a rare type of early wood construction was found in two specimen barns located at Lena in Brown County. Built by French settlers, the walls of these barns are about two feet thick. Cedar logs, 4 inches to 8 inches in diameter were laid crosswise, in the manner of a well stacked wood pile, in a bed of white, sand-lime mortar. For want of a better name it has been called wood-block masonry. Inquiries directed to Prof. Emil Lorch and Mr. Charles Peterson of the National Park Service, both of whom are authorities on early French timber construction, elicited expressions of keen interest in this find, but no information as to possible origins or comparable examples elsewhere. Mr. Tony Wuchterl of Sister Bay, a Member of the Historic Committee, advises that he has seen a few small buildings of this type in his part of the country. Next summer, therefore, will be the time to comb Brown and Door Counties for additional specimens.

During the past year the writer also measured and began the preparation of record drawings of the Koepsel House in Jackson Township, Washington County. This house is, perhaps, the best of the few and very rare examples of half timber construction still in existence. It was built in the mid-nineteenth century by a German carpenter and joiner who settled in the area. Diligent inquiry has disclosed nothing comparable to the Koepsel house anywhere in the United States. Early German settlers in the St. Louis, Missouri area used similar construction, but nothing of consequence remains. Of the Koepsel house the German architect and historian Hans Philipp says: "The cottage shown on your photos could easily be placed in the region east of Berlin, the Mark Brandenburg or Pomerania. Even the windows in their division of panes between bars refer to a German prototype, in fact the whole appearance. My first impression was that the house evidently was one of the old buildings of which you had taken pictures here in Germany, until I read the description and was amazed to learn that it

(Continued on Page 12)

TO WORSHIP

THE WALTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH MILWAUKEE, WIS.

ARCHITECTS — STEPHAN & KEMP AIA MILWAUKEE



HERE is a new church, contemporary in style and rich in the serenity that surrounds a place of worship. Designed for efficiency, it loses none of the feel of spiritual beauty.

Photos by Richard Bills,
Big Cedar Studios,
West Bend





Perrin . . .

From Page 8

was a Wisconsin house built a hundred years ago. Are there not state preservation authorities, legally authorized to demand the preservation of monuments of historical importance such as this? Why is it that the A.I.A., a private association, seems to act in such capacity, with or without executive powers?" An interesting question indeed!

No further progress can be reported concerning the preservation and restoration of the Jeremiah Curtin House at Greendale for which the writer prepared restoration working drawings and specifications in 1954. The problem of acquiring the necessary surrounding land is still the major stumbling block in undertaking actual restoration, and other obstacles are the lack of funds to do the work and the problem of maintaining and operating the building as a museum after its restoration. Nevertheless, some materials suitable for restoration use were located by the writer at the old Fingado House on Harwood Avenue in Wauwatosa, built prior to 1842, which was demolished during the past year. Maple plank floors 1 1/4 inches thick, 12 inches to 18 inches wide and up to 16 feet in length were salvaged as were wood-pegged doors and sash, handmade panes of window glass and miscellaneous items which could be useful if the restoration of the Curtin House ever materializes. These materials were taken over by the Milwaukee County Historical Society and are being stored by this organization.

Some additional efforts were also made during the past year to assure the preservation of the Mitchell-Rountree house at Platteville. Following visits with Miss Laura Rountree and members of the Grant County Historical Society, a conference was had in Washington, D. C. with the National Trust for the Preservation of Historic Buildings. The writer was advised that while the Mitchell-Rountree House was unquestionably important and worthy of preservation, the likelihood of success in this effort would be directly related to local interest and initiative. Accordingly, a prospectus is being prepared by the writer in the hope that with its distribution some interest can be aroused to preserve the Mitchell-Rountree house before it is too late.

(Continued on Page 14)

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REPRESENTED IN MILWAUKEE

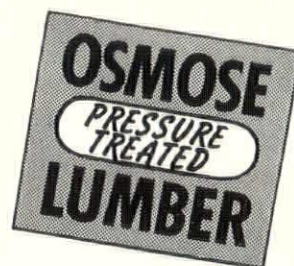
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Year

Madison — Milwaukee — Green Bay



Senores! Are You Interested In 'Trek 'Round South America'?

Wisconsin Chapter members who are interested in a winter vacation are invited to participate in the "Architects' Trek 'Round South America."

The "trek" leaves Miami, Fla., on Feb. 1, and returns to that city on Mar. 2. It includes visits to Panama, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. In all, it covers more than 15,000 miles.

The tour will be led by Mr. John R. Fugard, F.A.I.A., Chairman of The Institute's Committee on International Relations. He will be assisted by Richard Walker, F.R.I.B.A., who is well known to many for his great success in leading similar European tours.

It is hoped that a large number of A.I.A. members and their families will be able to avail themselves of this opportunity to visit South Amer-

ica during the ideal season for travel in that continent, under such favorable circumstances and in the company of fellow architects.

Perrin . . .

From Page 12

The principal reason no meetings were held is that one member, Mr. Richard Philipp, F.A.I.A., has been confined due to a serious injury and the other member, Mr. Anthony

Wuchterl, of Sister Bay, living some distance from Milwaukee, is not readily available.

Grateful acknowledgement is made to Mr. Ralph E. Schaefer, A.I.A., who again, as in previous years, ably assisted the writer in this work, particularly in taking measurements of buildings and collecting historical data.

Membership was maintained in the Society of Architectural Historians, the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Milwaukee County Historical Society. Correspondence was carried on with numerous local historical groups and individuals for the exchange of information.

NEW ASSOCIATION

Arthur Reddemann and Walter Domann have announced their association and the opening of the offices of Reddemann-Domann Architects at 13435 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove.

SPEAKING APPEARANCES ARE MADE BY TWO

Two Wisconsin Chapter members made speaking appearances last month.

William Wenzler addressed the Elm Grove branch of the American Association of University Women on the subject of "The Evolution of Church Architecture."

Wendell Isley spoke to students at Milwaukee Lutheran High School on the general subject of Architecture as a profession.

Both are Milwaukeeans.

TORKELSON REPLACES BALCH AT MEAD

Mead and Hunt, Inc., Madison, Wisconsin Chapter members, announce that Robert P. Torkelson, an architect-engineer, also an A.I.A. member, is now in charge of architectural work for the firm.

He replaces Harold C. Balch, who has resigned because of ill health.



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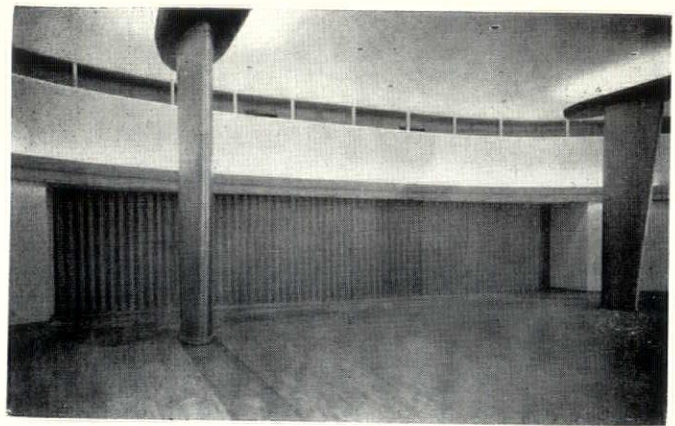
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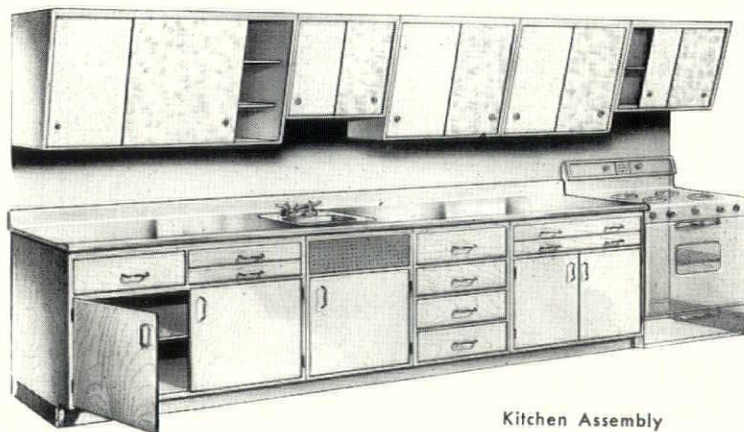
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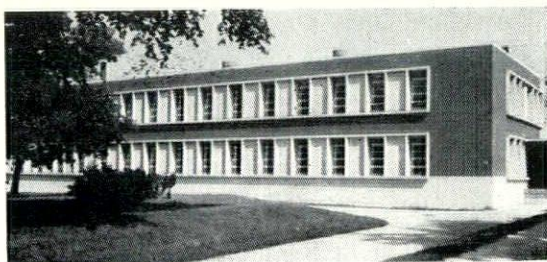
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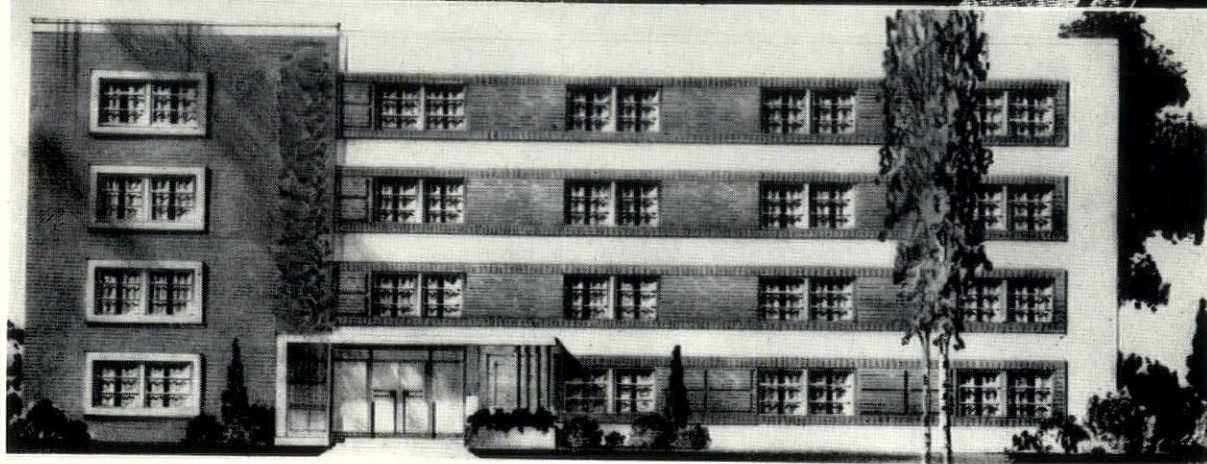
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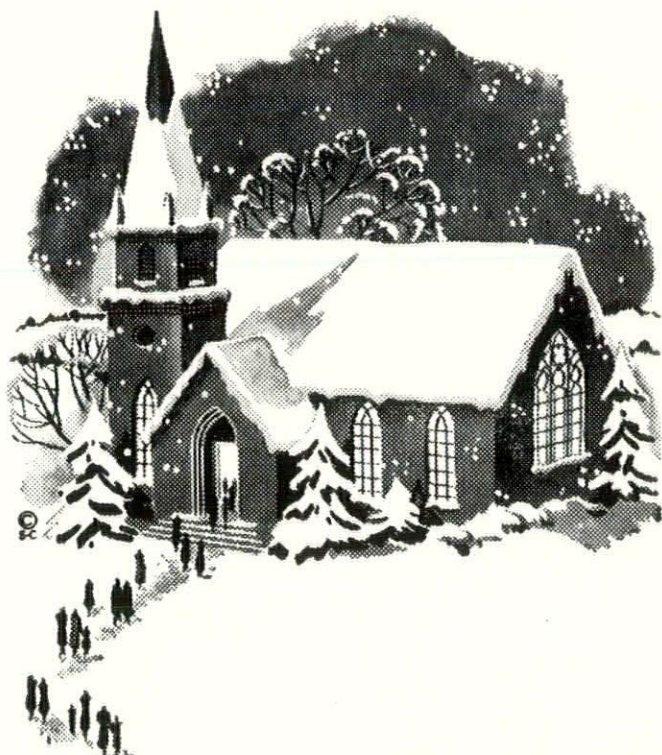
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